HAPPINESS IS 4-H

By Frank H. Sweet
Extension Agent

Congratulations to all the participants in last week's 4-H Share-the-Fun Show. All 4-H'ers who took part were truly winners. The top three Junior Division awards went to Scott Drinkard and Mike McCoy who tied for first place, Tony Bailey who was first runner-up and Joann Jamerson who was second runner-up.

Top honors in the Senior Division went to Lisa Moore and Susan Shorter with Tamara Nash as first runner-up and Kathy Lewis who was second runner up.

All 4-H'ers who took part in Share-the-Fun should continue to work on their acts as they may be called upon to perform again during the year. Also, there is the Five County Fair Talent Show each September.

* * *

The Appomattox Community Senior 4-H Club will once again hold their annual Christmas Party for deserving children. This particular event, held for the 7th time this season, has provided Christmas cheer for over 150 youngsters over the past years.

* * *

Several 4-H'ers have mentioned that they have already begun preparation for 4-H Public Speaking which will be held in late January and early February. Farmers National Bank has sponsored 4-H Public Speaking for the past seven years in Appomattox. Speeches may be on any subject and should be 2 - 4 minutes in length for the Junior Division (ages 9 - 13) and 5 - 7 minutes in length for the Senior Divison (ages 14 - 18).

* * *

Last year's 4-H projects will be given back this month. Some will be without ribbons as we've had to restock our supply. Ribbons will be awarded as soon as they're available. Over 350 completed projected were submitted.

* * *

4-H'ers of the Week: All the participants in Share-the-Fun and especially the backstage crew: Philip Jacobs, Ernie Chenault, Allen Smith, Michael Nash, Steve Conner, Richard Conner, and emcees: David Caldwell and Susan Parris.

ACHS COUNSELOR VISITS U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

Mrs. H. P. James, shown above, front row right, recently participated in a three-day Educators Visit to the U. S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. The Admissions Office of the Academy annually hosts groups of secondary school guidance counselors from throughout the United States. Each group is composed of between 20 and 25 people from a particular state or area to include congressional assistants. The purpose of the visit program is threefold: to inform participants of the qualifications and motivation desired of young men and women seeking admission to the Military Academy, to familiarize counselors with the nomination and appointment procedures for students interested in entering the Military Academy, and to broaden educator awareness of the scope of the academic and military training offered by the Military Academy. Robert Dyess, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dyess, Sr. of Concord, is currently a first year student at the Academy. Mrs. James is a Guidance Counselor at Appomattox County High School and Dyess is an ACHS graduate.

Game Division Chief To Become Assistant Executive Director

Richard H. Cross, Jr., Chief of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries Game Division, has been named to succeed James F. McInteer as Assistant Executive Director of the organization. McInteer will assume the responsibilities of Executive Director on December 28, 1978, replacing Chester F. Phelps who is terminating his forty year service with the agency on the previous day.

Cross, a native of Concord, Virginia, joined the Commission in March of 1942 after having received a Masters Degree in Wildlife Management from Virginia Polytechnic Institue (now VPI & SU). In January of 1943 he was granted military leave of absence to serve in the Army Air Corps. During that period, he flew 84 combat missions as a fighter pilot flying P-47 Thunderbolts in the European Theater of action.

Following his discharge in December of 1945 he rejoined the Commission as a Game Biologist. He was promoted to Game Biologist Supervisor in February 1955 and on July 1, 1958 was promoted to Chief of the Game Division.

Dick Cross is married to the former Mary Jo Oliver of Athens, Tennessee. The couple has one son, Richard Hunter Cross, III, who is married and lives in Concord, Mass., and they make their home in west Richmond, Virginia.

Of Interest To Veterans

An increase from $17,500 to $25,000 as the maximum guaranty for Veterans Administration home loans is one of several important features of the "Veterans Housing Benefits Act of 1978," according to the Roanoke VA Regional Office.

The legislation, which was signed on October 18 by President Carter also permits certain severely disabled veterans to obtain a VA grant of up to $30,000 to buy or adapt a residence to meet their special needs, VA said. VA grants for these so-called "wheelchair homes" were formerly limited to $25,000.

VA pointed out that the new bill should be of special benefit to an estimated 168,000 Vietnam Era veterans because it reduces the length of active duty service required for eligibility for VA home, condominium or mobile home loan guaranty benefits. Vietnam Era veterans now need to have served only 90 days on active duty - one day of which must have been between August 5, 1964, and May 7, 1975 - to be eligible for these VA benefits.

"The new law brings the eligibility requirements for Vietnam veterans in line with those for World War II and Korean Conflict veterans," VA said. The legislation also permits VA to guarantee loans for energy-related home improvements, including installation of solor heating and cooling systems. In addition, the law authorizes VA to guarantee loans for converted condominiums as of July 1, 1979. The agency currently is authorized to guarantee condominium loans in buildings constructed and sold as this type of dwelling.

VA said another significant section of the legislation restructures VA's mobile home loan program - - setting a $17,500 loan maximum and extending the maximum loan term for single-wide mobile homes to 15 years, an increase of 36 months.

Veterans may obtain complete details of the expanded loan guaranty program at any VA regional office.

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Hunters Can Improve Their Image

"Individual hunters can improve their image," says James N. Kerrick, Safety Officer for the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. Kerrick stated that "with diminishing game habitat and increasing anti-hunter propaganda, it does make sense for each hunter to assume the individual responsibility of making the best possible face and voice for his sport. Because many aren't 'joiners' of sportsmen's groups they assume there isn't much they, as individuals, can do. In fact, there are some imminent things each of them must do.

"They're emphasized in the results of a recent survey made in a major eastern hunting state. Landowners were asked why they had put up "No Hunting" signs. Here are reasons given (1) protection of their families and property; (2) increasing number of hunters coming on their lands without permission; (3) unsportsmanlike conduct, such as: leaving trash and beer cans, cutting fences and abusive language; (4) and increasing number of hunters in the field.

"At the mid-year period, we should remember these four key complains. It's a good time to remember those landowners on whose properties we hunt and let them know we appreciate the privilege. Thus we each make a better voice and face for the sport of hunting," according to Kerrick.

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JUNIOR ANGUS HEIFER SHOW HELD AT KEYSTONE EXPO

Laureen Novak, Newark, Ohio, exhibited the grand champion heifer at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Judging the Junior Angus show was Herman Purdy, Alexandria, Pennsylvania.

The May yearling heifer was Blackeap Velvet M55G and was bred in the Carl A. Murphy herd at Morral, Ohio. Laureen is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Novak.

Reserve grand champion was Walter Bartessa Favorite 997 exhibited by Wendy MacIntosh, 17, Appomattox, Virginia. The heifer was bred by Big Brook Farm, Colts Neck, New Jersey. Wendy's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Bill MacIntosh.

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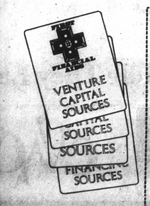

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Then And Now

By Frances H. Paulette

Young At Heart

One of the Young Hearts Club members...back THEN; can you guess which one it happens to be?

The Young Hearts Club of Appomattox County is, without a doubt, a very special group of people. Even though the years have a way of accumulating, this doesn't necessarily mean one has to grow old.

According to any one of the one hundred and four members of this club, a person is only as old or as young as he or she feels in his heart. The young Hearts Club members definitely 'feel young' and 'feeling young' results in 'acting young', and 'acting young' helps one to stay young!

The Young Hearts Club of Appomattox County was organized on May 10, 1973 at the Memorial United Methodist Church in Appomattox. Regular monthly meetings are only a small part of the club's busy schedule.

Recently I was privileged to be the guest of the club and enjoyed, not only good fellowship, but a delicious lunch as well.

During the course of the meeting I asked members to share with the group a memory or memories of childhood or youth . . . back THEN.

As the storehouse of memories was unlocked, out poured incidents of by-gone days; a memory filled with humor, another full of mischief and still others that were tender, loving memories.

I would like to share with you some of the memories of 'by-ge' days as related by members of The Young Hearts Club.

One fact has been established . . . the people living in Appomattox THEN didn't lack for entertainment!

One of the most eagerly awaited events was the county fair. This yearly event took place on the local fair grounds which was located across from the TIMES-VIRGINIAN building or in that approximate area.

The fair offered a lot in the way of diversion and entertainment. The ladies of the county who displayed their jams, jellies and handiwork of various kinds were proud of the ribbons designating them as winners. The men, not to be out done by the women, exhibited bundles of tobacco, ears of corn, garden products and the like; they were equally proud and equally deserving of the ribbons they won.

For the young, the fair offered rides. Oh, what fun! There was one problem...the rides cost all of 5¢ each. For most children, living THEN, 5¢ was hard to come by!

One of the 'youngest' of the Young at Heart remembered quite well just how she and her brothers and sisters earned money for rides at the fair . . . by picking up acorns in the church lot at 1¢ a bucket. What, you may ask, did they do with the acorns. Feed then to the hogs of course!

It their young backs ached a bit from the chore of picking up acorns, I'm sure all was forgotten when they enjoyed the magic of the rides.

One lady told of her mother selling peppermint patties on the fair grounds. Imagine, a child living THEN having 10¢ for two rides and enough money to buy a peppermint pattie . . . that was luxury!!

Back in the early 20's one could enjoy a movie on Saturday night if you went to Chinatown. Chinatown? How did you get there? Just cross the railroad tracks to a place in the general location of Garris Upholstry Shop or maybe on the opposite side of the street and you were there!

Do any of you readers remember CHATAUQUAH?

If a resident of Appomattox in the 20's decided he or she wanted something a bit more refined than the movies, then CHATAUQUAH was the thing! It was live entertainment.

CHATAUQUAH, a traveling group, came to Appomattox four times a year. According to the memories of one lady, it was very 'high-class' entertainment. One show might star a concert pianist, another an opera singer or something of that nature. It was necessary to purchase a season ticket for all four shows rather than seeing maybe one or two shows out of the four. The season ticket cost approximately $10.00 and that was a lot of money back THEN!

And then there were the medicine shows! They were usually presented from the back of a wagon. Following the show, you were able to purchase 'patent' medicine that was guaranteed to cure whatever ailment was bothering you at that particular time.

Appomattox residents sometimes drove to Lynchburg to attend a movie. A trip to Lynchburg and a movie in the same day was quite an occasion.

One lady has happy memories of coming to Appomattox from her home in Lynchburg to eat at the Bandana Cabin. Operated by Mrs. Childress, the restaurant was located on the right of 460 as you left the town of Appomattox. The food was, without a doubt, good, according to this lady; it made dining in Appomattox something special.

After the 'Chinatown movies' John Curtis Caldwell was responsible for movies in Appomattox. The following story is told on one prominent Appomattox man, now deceased.

John Curtis Caldwell was known for the really good movies he brought to his theater for the entertainment of the people of Appomattox.

On this particular occasion a really outstanding western was being shown. As the show progressed, excitement was mounting as the 'good guys' tried to outwit the 'bad guys'. The prominent Appomattox man could stand the tension no longer. As the 'good guy' was creeping around a building hoping to find the 'bad guy' our friend yelled out in the theater, "There he is over there . . . right behind that clump of bushes!!"

Yes, memories have told us one thing, there was a lot of entertainment in Appomattox then, but there was more. Next week - - - more memories from the Young Hearts Club of Appomattox . . . all about purple bloomers and second-hand chewing gum!

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ASCS TODAY

By Tom Conrad

ASCS ELECTIONS - Monday was the final day for Community Committee election ballots to be returned to the ASCS Office. In checking our records we find that approximately 600 ballots were cast or 37 percent of the eligible voters in the County. I would like to thank all those who cast a ballot.

This Friday, December 8 starting at 9:30 A.M. the County Committee will meet at the ASCS office to tabulate the ballots. The public is invited to attend.

On December 14 the County Convention will be held at the ASCS Office. The purpose of the Convention will be to elect or re-elect a person to serve on the County Committee for a three year term. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Regular Member of the Committee will serve. serve as delegates to the Convention and will be responsible for the election or re-election of the person on the County Committee. The Convention is open to the public.

Running for re-election on the County Committee this year is W. E. Bondurant, Jr. Mr. Bondurant has served on the Committee for two consecutive three year terms and if he is re-elected this year this will be his final term. ASCS election regulations permit a County Committee member to serve for no more than three consecutive terms before going off the Committee, however after being off for at least one year the same person may run again.

If there are any questions you may have concerning the elections, please contact the ASCS Office.

Farmers to Receive Payments - Wheat producers will receive between $585 and $655 million and barley producers between $65 and $80 million in deficiency payments under the 1978 wheat and feed grain programs.

Payment check will be mailed to eligible wheat and barley producers by the ASCS office beginning in December. Corn and grain sorghum payments will be made in April.

The deficiency payment rate is the difference between the established (target) price of the commodity and the higher of either the national average loan rate or the national weighted average market price received by farmers during the first five months of the marketing year for each commodity (for wheat and barley June through October). The per bushel 1978 target prices are $3.40 for wheat and $2.25 for barley and the national average loan rates are $2.35 for wheat and $1.63 for barley.

The national average market prices for wheat were: June, $2.82; July, $2.80; August, $2.88; September, $2.92; October mid-month, $3.04. For barley, the national average market prices were: June, $2.04; July, $1.84; August, $1.87; September, $1.84; October mid-month, $1.81. Based on these prices, the estimated per bushel payment rate is from 50 to 60 cents for wheat and from 33 to 39 cents for barley. the final deficiency payment rates will be determined following the November 30 Agricultural Prices Report.

Deficiency payments for the 1978 wheat and barley crops are computed by multiplying the projected yield for the farm by the acreage planted for harvest times the payment rate. However, the payment may be adjusted downward by the allocation factor. The allocation factor is determined by dividing the national program acreage by the number of acres the Secretary of Agriculture estimates were harvested. These values will be determined from the November crop report. The allocation factor will be applied to deficiency payments on farms where producers have not reduced the 1978 acreage of barley from 1977 by 20 percent. It is estimated the allocation factor will be 95 to 100 percent for wheat and 83 to 89 percent for barley.

Forestry Incentives Program - FIP - Appomattox has received an allocation of $12,000.00 for use in the 1978 FIP.

FIP is designed to assist owners of timber stands in improving the quality of wood in an established stand by removing undesirable trees that are competing for nutrients, moisture, and sunlight. The program also assists land owners in establishing a stand of trees through cost sharing on site preparation, if needed, along with the cost of planting trees.

There will be a county plan developed for FIP in the near future. The plan will be a joint effort between the Virginia Division of Forestry and ASCS. After the plan has been developed and approved a sign-up for the 1979 program will be announced, at which time more specific details will be given.

If you have any questions concerning the program please contact the ASCS office or Wayne Bowman of the Virginia Division of Forestry. 1979 **Outlook For Tobacco** - The following are remarks by Robert H. Miller and Richard Hall, USDA Economists - 1979 National Outlook Conference, Washington, D. C.

1979 Outlook For Tobacco - This year's large crop more that matches expected use during 1978-79, but U. S. cigarette production and leaf exports probably will rise over year-earlier levels. Next year's tobacco quotas will aim at limiting production near the amount used this season in order to keep stock from piling up at the end of the 1978-79 marketing year. Lower total production in 1979 and higher support prices will keep cash receipts from tobacco near the $2.6 billion estimated for 1978.

The value of U. S. tobacco and tobacco product exports during calendar 1978 are expected to reach a record $1.8 billion. Rising cigarette production abroad and the continued preference for flue-cured and barley blends point to increased shipments in 1979. In the United States, a rise in the smoking age population continues to offset declines in tobacco use per person, which will slip to around 200 packs this year.

Although total tobacco production is up 11 percent this season to an estimated 2.01 billion pounds, flue-cured prices reached a record $1.36 a pound during the auction season just ended, and barley prices may top last season's record of $1.20 a pound.

Roanoke TV Station To Air Pro Gun Show

Television Station (Channel 10) has scheduled the showing of a pro gun show entitled "The Gun Grabbers" on Saturday, December 2, 1978 beginning at 6 P.M. Eastern Standard Time. The 30-minute long program was produced recently by the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms in an effort to "shatter the long time emotional myths perpetuated on the American people by the anti-gun media."

Two years in the making, "The Gun Grabbers" may be seen on Saturday by the viewers in the 6 county area surrounding Roanoke, Va. However, when ,future showings are scheduled the times, dates and stations airing the program will be announced in a subsequent News Release.

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